KIX0137-PCT

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

HIROAKI ONISHI ET AL.

U.S. Nat'l. Phase Appln. of PCT/JP99/04845

ATTN. APPLICATION BRANCH

Int.1. Filing Date: 6 SEPTEMBER 1999

For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING FILING

Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.96-1.97 and M.P.E.P. § 609, applicants, through their attorneys, hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Copies of the references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

All the Japanese references with the exception of JP 5-88068 are accompanied by English language abstracts and are cited in the International Search Report of applicant's corresponding International Application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the U.S. national phase application.

Int'l. Appln. No. PCT/JP99/04845 Inventor: HIROAKI ON THE ET AL. Attorney's Docket No. No. 137-PCT 09/786680 JC02 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 8 MAR 2001

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

HIROAKI ONISHI et al.

By:

Michael D. Bednarek Registration No. 32,329

SHAWPITTMAN 3200 N Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-1128

Tel: 202/663-8906

Date: March 8, 2001

Document #: 1002050 v.1

Document #: 1035385 v.2

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